

# Car, \$10,000 Jewels Still Missing



THEY WALKED AWAY . . . Three Torrance teenagers climbed out of this overturned convertible Monday afternoon after it struck a parked car on Maricopa near Cerise Ave. and flipped over on its back. Driver of the car, which

was registered to Lucian Hogan, 1221 El Prado, was listed by police as Ronnie E. Hogan, 16, of 2604 W. 176th St. His passengers were Sally Hickman, 16, of 23031 Cabrillo, and Roberta Long, 1222 Date Ave. Hogan and Miss Hickman received minor injuries.

(Herald Photo)

# CLERK DISPUTE AIRED TONIGHT

## Internal Dispute Details to be Told

An "authentic and direct report of the true situation" which has resulted in an internal split of Retail Clerks Union No. 905, will be made tonight at "important" meeting of the national vice-president and director, urged members to "discount all rumors" that may have been passed in the field. The international officials were quite mum on Tidwell's situation, although Womack denied that Tidwell had been replaced, and stated on Tuesday that he was working at the union hall as usual.

## DiSilva Rumor 'Not True'

A spokesman for the Retail Clerks' Union, Local 770, of Los Angeles, said last Tuesday afternoon "there is no truth to the rumor" that Joe DiSilva, secretary of Local 770 would be a candidate as a possible successor to Tidwell.

Repeated offers of this newspaper to talk with Tidwell and Womack have been refused. Vice-president Crossler said that an unnamed group within



HASKELL TIDWELL  
... In or Out?

1500 union members in San Pedro. Reluctant to make any statement concerning the status of Haskell Tidwell, for 20 years secretary-treasurer of the union, was Herschel Womack, an international deputy supervisor, sent here by the international union to take over the affairs of the union pending the settlement of the dispute.

The internal dispute was labeled as such in a letter sent to member clerks in Torrance and other nearby communities, and which urged all members of the union to attend tonight's meeting in the Yugoslav Hall, 1639 S. Palos Verdes in San Pedro. The meeting is called for 8:30 p.m.

Womack told reporters this week he had not been advised of any misuse of union funds, as had been rumored for several weeks, A. B. Crossler, inter-

national vice-president and director, urged members to "discount all rumors" that may have been passed in the field.

The secretary - treasurer held by Tidwell for two decades is an elected officer.

Membership in the Clerks' Union includes members from Torrance, Lomita, Harbor City, San Pedro, Wilmington, Gardena, Avalon Village and Willowbrook.

Following is a copy of the letter sent to union members last Thursday:

March 12, 1953  
To All Members and Officers of Retail Clerks Union, Local 905, A.F.L.

Greetings:  
Under the Constitution of the Retail Clerks International Association, your International Union has the responsibility of regulating "any controversy or difficulty that may arise between . . . the members of a Local Union."

It has been brought to our attention that an internal dispute exists within your Local Union and a request has been made that the International inter-

cede. In the best interests of the entire Union membership we deemed it advisable to place the affairs of the Local Union under international supervision temporarily, until such time as the present controversy or difficulty is properly adjusted, consistent with the International Constitution, sound trade union principles, and justice to all concerned.

International Deputy Supervisor Herschel Womack has been duly appointed to direct and administer the affairs of Local 905 with the cooperation and assistance of local personnel.

This is the regular procedure followed in such matters in accordance with the International Constitution. Please discount all rumors that you may hear in the field until you have an opportunity to receive an authentic and direct report of the true situation at your next regular union meeting.

Please make every effort to attend this important regular membership meeting, to be held at Yugoslav Hall, 1639 S. F. Thursday, March 19, 1953, at 8:30 p.m.

Copies of the International Constitution are available for all members at the Union office, so that you may be better informed regarding the procedure which are being followed to protect your welfare and interests.

With best wishes, I am, Fraternally yours, A. B. CROSSLER, International Vice President and Director

## Sampson Takes Seat on Board

Ken Sampson, chief deputy for the late Ray Darby, took the seat of his boss on the Board of Supervisors Tuesday to become the acting supervisor—unofficially.

Sampson, considered to be a leading contender for the governor's appointment, took the seat on the board upon the insistence of Roger W. Jessup and other members of the board.

The acting supervisor lives in Palos Verdes.

## Head of Power Company Answers Union Charges

W. C. Mullendore, president of the Southern California Edison Co., Monday issued a statement challenging the truths of certain accusations he claims were made by a spokesman for a union now on strike against the local power company.

Striking for a union shop and a 25-cent hourly wage boost are members of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL, Local 47.

President's Statement

Mullendore stated: "Again the employees of, and the public served by, Southern California Edison Company are confronted with the technique of falsification of the record and serious misrepresentation of facts, which has been previously resorted to by this same Union spokesman.

"It is utterly untrue that the Company has discharged these employees called out on strike by Local 47, IBEW-AFL. The Company has repeatedly invited (and the invitation is still open) all employees who are on strike to return to their jobs. A great many have returned and more are returning each day. To maintain vital service, it may be necessary to fill some of these jobs, but only an insignificant fraction of them have been filled permanently at this time.

## Off-Street School Bus Loading Zones Probed

Request of Police Chief John H. Stroh that the Torrance Unified School District provide off-street facilities for loading and unloading buses at the North Torrance Elementary School was taken under advisement by the Board of Education Tuesday, and an investigation of the situation ordered.

## Board Orders Plans Drawn For Walteria School Wing

The architectural firm of Scher and Peterson were commissioned by the Board of Education Tuesday to prepare preliminary plans, working drawings, and specifications for the construction of a classroom wing on the Walteria Elementary School.

The new addition, the board declared, would consist of four standard classrooms, boys' and girls' restrooms, and custodial room.

Architecture of the addition will conform with the present



WAVES IN TRAINING . . . Now starting their third week of WAVE basic training at the U. S. Naval Training Center in Bainbridge, Md., are Thelma L. Selph, 18, 925 Border Ave., and Colleen E. Mooney, 18, 905 Sartori Ave. The two girls, both graduates of Torrance High, first applied for enlistment at the local Navy Recruiting Substation in Gardena, then traveled to Los Angeles for final processing and enlistment. They explained at International Airport Tuesday, Mar. 3, for the Bainbridge Center, and upon graduation, they will be assigned either to an advanced school or directly to duty with the Naval forces. Miss Selph is the daughter of Levi W. Selph of the Border Ave. address, while Miss Mooney is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Mooney of the Sartori Ave. address.

## Protests Mount Over Dominguez Water Rate Hike

Proposed hike in Dominguez area water rates of two cents per cubic foot asked by the Dominguez Water Co. got a "thumbs down" answer from the newly-formed Keystone Civic Betterment Association this week.

President Elmer R. Clark, speaking on behalf of the group, said, "We feel that the rate increase cannot be justified. If it were necessary, we would approve."

Petitions protesting the increase already are being circulated in the area, he said, and the association is requesting that all water users personally protest the proposal by sending a card or letter to the Public Utilities Commission.

The group also is asking all water users to be present at a hearing next Tuesday, Mar. 24, at 10 a.m. in the Commission Courtroom, Mirror Building, 145 S. Spring St., Los Angeles.

Further plans for the campaign of opposition will be discussed at a 7:30 p.m. meeting the preceding Monday at the Baptist Church, 443 W. 220th St.

The association stand closely parallels the opinion voiced by the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, a private volunteer organization of farmers, which termed the proposed raise in water rates as "unjustified and exorbitant."

The two-cent increase would

## U. S. Army Commends National

The United States Army Ordnance Corps this week delivered a special commendation to National Supply Co. in recognition of the firm's accomplishment in the production of an artillery gun forgings at a voluntarily reduced price. Col. W. S. Broberg, Chief of the Los Angeles Army Ordnance District, will make the presentation to John D. Spalding, works manager, before an assemblage of company employees and union representatives.

Enviably Record

The commendation issued by Maj. Gen. E. L. Ford, Army Chief of Ordnance, says that a recent inspection of Army contracts showed the Torrance plant of National Supply "consistently maintained an enviable record of economical operation."

"It was further shown," Gen. Ford wrote, "that as a result of increased efficiency of operation and production know-how, price reductions were made and passed on to the Government with considerable savings to the taxpayer." He added:

"We appreciate not only the outstanding performance in this

commence."

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far meeting of the school trustees, Albert N. Posner, administrative assistant, told the board members that intense competition for teachers was developing throughout the school districts of Southern California.

Posner explained to the board that he had been visiting campuses throughout the area and that he felt certain that Torrance would be able to offer a program which would be attractive to a large number of persons who would be graduating from the Southland's colleges this spring.

Teachers Needed

He pointed out that the district now has 233 certificated personnel and that another 75 or 80 would be needed this fall. He indicated that needs for new teachers throughout the state has been estimated at 13,000 for the coming year, and that on the elementary level, at least, the current "crop" would be about 3000 short.

Posner said the competition

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## Bill Proposes Renaming of So. Bay Court

A bill currently in the State Senate proposes to change the name of the South Bay Municipal Court, where most of Torrance trials are now held, to the Redondo Beach Municipal Court.

The bill throws salt into the wound created when the Torrance City Court was abolished and reorganized into the South Bay Municipal Court. Now Senator Jack Tenney proposes to change the name of the court.

Reason for the proposal (Senate Bill 1027) is to eliminate the alleged confusion existing because there are two other court districts in the state called South Bay. One is located in Chula Vista, San Diego County and another, the South Bay Justice Court, is located near San Francisco.

Disapproving of the bill is a number of Torrance civic leaders who object to identifying the court with any one city when actually the court serves Torrance, Lomita, Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, Lawndale, Hermosa Beach, Rolling Hills, and parts of Hawthorne.

Status of the bill as of last Friday indicated it was still "in committee."

## To Break Ground for New School Monday

Construction of the Howard Wood Elementary School on 235th St. west of Narbonne Ave. is slated to begin Monday following action of the Board of Education this week.

Successful bidder for the project was the Winter Construction Co., whose bid of \$233,795 was accepted by the Board Tuesday night.

Terms of the agreement call for completion of the new elementary school within 300 calendar days after March 23, effective date of the contract. Deadline for completion of the school which will serve the Kettler Knolls area and adjacent homes is Jan. 16, 1954.

The school will be built with federal funds.

Crenshaw Approved

Also approved by the Board of Education Tuesday evening was the preliminary plans for the proposed Crenshaw Elementary School to be built on the site now occupied by the temporary bungalow structures at 186th St. and Crenshaw Blvd.

The new Crenshaw school, to be built with Federal funds, will include an administration and health center, three classroom wings, and a double kindergarten, according to the plans accepted by the board Tuesday. Some modifications of the plans are expected before final approval.

In other action at the regu-

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